



# WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

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## TO THE CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

### Fall Conference

ONE OF THE MOST stimulating and rewarding personal experiences to me, was the recently conducted fall conference of the Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association at the Disneyland Hotel on September 23 to 26. This conference was conducted for county presidents, county presidents-elect, county chairmen, county chairmen-elect and state committee chairmen. The format was that of a workshop. The purpose of the fall conference was to teach and be taught; to exchange ideas so that we may become better leaders in our auxiliary and our communities; and to formulate plans for the current year. The conference lasted three days and was crowded with activities, which, I hope, proved beneficial and profitable to those attending.

Since most of the doctors' wives—and certainly the doctors (with but a few exceptions) could not be in attendance, a review of the activities might be of value, and also serve to remind the doctors that conferences can be conducted with dispatch and efficiency.

A highlight of the agenda on the first evening's program was a talk by Mrs. William Mackerzie, president of the Auxiliary to the American Medical Association. It was certainly a privilege and a pleasure to have her with us. Mrs. Mackerzie, an active auxiliary worker for some twenty-seven years, made us aware of auxiliary and its potential. Her concentrated message was most stimulating, for she outlined the plans and hopes she is fostering to stimulate our activities and interests.

The Membership Panel, moderated by the membership chairman, Mrs. Floyd K. Anderson, consisted of four county presidents representing counties of varying membership. Since the ultimate goal of the auxiliary is to have every eligible wife a member, many and varied methods of interesting doctors' wives to become active and interested in auxiliary were presented and ideas exchanged. Methods of obtaining new members, regaining resigned members and stimulating the interest and active participation of former inactive members were outlined in the panel discussion.

The Panel for Woman's Auxiliary-Students American Medical Association, consisted of a medical student and three medical students' wives. It was conducted by Mrs. Matthew Hosmer, the state chairman. Although this committee was formed only this year, its activities were most enlightening to the many county presidents who were unfamiliar with it.

A most informative panel was that on Health Careers. The State Health Career chairman, Mrs. Leonard Offield, was moderator and two county presidents participated as panelists. The Health Career Conference, which I recently covered in one of my articles, was presented in detail, much to the delight of the many interested counties. Information on nurse recruitment, future nurses clubs and the other allied fields of medicine was outlined in detail. This committee remains a very popular and important one since it represents one of our key projects.

The state chairman of Physicians' Benevolence Committee, Mrs. Milton Schatz, presented an excellent résumé of this important committee's work. She explained the background and the need for such a fund. The desire of the C.M.A. to care for their own and the hope for continuing support from the counties were emphasized. The chairman explained the financial aspects of this program and emphasized the importance of financial support.

The panel on Community Service, formerly called Public Relations, was moderated by the state chairman, Mrs. Angus McDonald, with four county presidents serving as panelists. Importance of this committee is demonstrated by the fact that it has a close relationship with all of the other committees. Since the committee serves within the boundaries of all communities, it needs the cooperation of the Community Service Committee. Each panelist presented the "unusual" that she does in her own community. Amongst the "unusual" was San Francisco's "Meals on Wheels" project, which interested small and large counties alike.

The panel on Problems of the Aging, with Mrs. Theodore Poska as chairman, was a most informative one. It was of particular interest to the county presidents, for it fulfilled their desire to not only

assist the C.M.A. in this program, but to encompass as much information as possible. Only by this means can we relay to the public correct and precise information.

The Civil Defense Committee presented its important message in the form of a skit—depicting the necessities of being well prepared. Home Preparedness was the title of this most informative skit. Mrs. Fenimore Davis, state chairman, was the moderator, and three county presidents were the participants.

The GEMS (good emergency mother substitutes) panel was moderated by the state chairman, Mrs. Hugh McVeigh, with four county presidents participating. There was an excellent exchange of ideas for the training of good emergency mother substitutes. This program is growing rapidly in popularity with teen-agers and other organizations.

Another informative panel was one on the American Medical Education Foundation. This committee we hold high amongst our projects. The state chairman, Mrs. John Lagen, had as her panelists the presidents of three of our counties who had raised monies in unusual ways. There was a brisk exchange of ideas which proved beneficial to all. Following this panel there was a presentation of awards to the county that contributed most money to A.M.E.F., to the county that contributed the most per capita and to the county that presented the most novel idea.

The Safety Committee presented a novel program, using a hat show to emphasize Home Safety. The eleven models that participated were county presidents and presidents-elect. Each model wore a hat trimmed with various hazards to safety encountered in the home. The appropriate script for each was read by the state Safety Committee chairman, Mrs. Charles Jobbins.

The State Program chairman, Mrs. Albert Miller, divided the counties into two categories—those counties with a membership of over 100, and those with membership of under 100. Discussions were held with each group. Since a good program stimulates the interest and enthusiasm of the membership, which in turn engenders an increase in

membership, this was an effective means of informing the county presidents.

We felt most flattered, and honored, indeed, that the C.M.A. Advisory Board gave of their valuable time to participate in the fall conference. This was the highlight of the three-day session. Dr. Paul Foster, president of the C.M.A., spoke to us on "Governor's Committee for Medical Care Needs in California." Dr. Samuel Sherman, chairman of the C.M.A. Council, enlightened us on "Recent Council Action of Dramatic Nature." Dr. Warren Bostick, president-elect of the C.M.A., informed us with regard to "Medical Care for the Elderly." Dr. Malcolm Todd, a member of the Council, having returned that very morning after accompanying Mr. Nixon on one of his campaign tours, brought us the "last minute" news regarding our Vice-President, and spoke on "Accelerated Public Relations Program of the C.M.A. and How Can the Auxiliary Join Forces on a Partnership Basis to Implement this Program." Mr. Howard Hassard, executive director, C.M.A., presented vital information on "The Legislative Side of Our Problem." The women were most enthusiastic with this excellent panel, for it gave us valuable and important information. I wish to express my appreciative and grateful thanks to them, for a stimulating and most worthwhile program.

I am grateful, also, to the moderators, panelists and speakers of this conference, who I felt, brought a wealth of information, wisdom, and food for thought. I am sure that much good will accrue to those who attended.

This conference could not have been possible or successful, without the capable and efficient cooperation of the fall conference chairman, Mrs. Bernard Mason of Huntington Beach, and her diligent and conscientious committee women, Mrs. G. Emmett Raitt, Mrs. J. B. Price, Mrs. Lewis Ellmore, Mrs. Van Kaye and Mrs. John Montanus. My grateful and appreciative thanks goes to each of them.

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